CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of selectively tracking events occurring on a printer, the method comprising:

providing a printer including a memory;

providing a first event log maintained in said memory, said first event log configurable by a user of said printer;

configuring said first event log to accept and maintain a selection of selected event messages;

providing a monitoring device to detect an event occurring on said printer;

activating said monitoring device in response to said event;

generating an event message with said monitoring device upon said activation;

conveying said event message to said first event log;

examining said event message to determine if said event message is one of said selected event messages; and

writing said event message into said first event log if said event message is said one of said selected event messages, such that said one of said selected event messages is maintained therein for tracking said event.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

providing a second event log maintained in said memory;

conveying said event message to said second event log; and

writing said event message into said second event log, such that said event message is maintained therein for tracking said event.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein said second event log includes one of an event log configurable by said user of said printer and an event log not configurable by a user of said printer.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising configuring said second event log to accept and maintain said selection of selected event messages.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising examining said event message to determine if said event message comprises said one of said selected event messages.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein said event comprises an error occurring on said printer.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein said first event log comprises a wraparound file.

8. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
selecting said selected event messages from said first event log; and displaying said selected event messages in a virtual event log.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein said virtual event log comprises an event log displayed as a web page-like interface.

10. A method of simultaneously tracking events on a printer, comprising:
providing a printer including a memory;
providing a first event log maintained in said memory;
providing a second event log maintained in said memory;
providing a monitoring device to detect an event occurring on said printer;
activating said monitoring device in response to said event;
generating an event message with said monitoring device upon said activation;
writing said event message into said first event log, such that said event message is maintained therein for tracking said event; and
writing said event message into said second event log, such that said event message is maintained therein for tracking said event.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein said second event log includes an event log configurable by a user of said printer.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising configuring said second event log to accept and maintain a selection of selected event messages.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising examining said event message to determine if said event message includes one of said selected event messages.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein said user can configure said second event log through a web page-like interface.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein said web page-like interface comprises a web page-like interface generated within a printer network utility program.

16. The method of claim 14, further comprising accessing said web page-like interface through a printer control panel.

17. The method of claim 12, wherein said second event log may be reset by said user using an interface.

18. The method of claim 10, wherein said first event log may be reset by replacing a printer component.

19. The method of claim 10, wherein said event includes an error occurring on said printer.

20. A system for simultaneously tracking printer errors, comprising:

a printer including a memory;

a first event log maintained in said memory;

a second event log maintained in said memory; and

a monitoring device to detect an event occurring on said printer, said monitoring device configured to activate and generate an event message upon detection of said event, and to convey said event message to said first event log and said second event log.

21. The system of claim 20, wherein said second event log includes a second event log configurable by a user of said printer to accept and maintain a selection of selected event messages.

22. The system of claim 21, wherein said second event log examines said event messages to determine if said event messages are one of said selected event messages, and stores and maintains said selected event messages.

23. The system of claim 21, wherein said second event log includes a second event log configurable by said user of said printer using a web page-like interface to designate said selected event messages.

24. A method of selectively tracking events occurring on a printer having a monitoring device for detecting at least one event , the method comprising:

creating a first event log for said printer for maintaining a selection of selected event messages;

activating said monitoring device in response to said event;

generating an event message with said monitoring device upon said activation;

conveying said event message to said first event log;

examining said event message to determine if said event message is one of said selected event messages; and

writing said event message into said first event log if said event message is said one of said selected event messages, such that said one of said selected event messages is maintained therein for tracking said event.

25. The method of claim 24, further comprising:

creating a second event log for said printer;

conveying said event message to said second event log; and

writing said event message into said second event log for tracking.

26. The method of claim 25, further comprising configuring said second event log to accept and maintain said selection of selected event messages.

27. The method of claim 26, further comprising examining said event message to determine if said event message comprises said one of said selected event messages.

28. The method of claim 24, wherein said first event log comprises a wraparound file.

29. The method of claim 24, further comprising:

selecting said selected event messages from said first event log; and

displaying said selected event messages in a virtual event log.

30. The method of claim 29, wherein said virtual event log comprises an event log displayed as a web page-like interface.

31. A method of simultaneously tracking events on a printer having a monitoring device, comprising:

creating a first event log for said printer;

creating a second event log for said printer;

detecting an event occurring on said printer;

activating said monitoring device in response to said event;

generating an event message with said monitoring device upon said activation;

writing said event message into said first event log, such that said event message is maintained therein for tracking said event; and

writing said event message into said second event log, such that said event message is maintained therein for tracking said event.

32. The method of claim 31, further comprising configuring said second event log to accept and maintain a selection of selected event messages.

33. The method of claim 32, further comprising examining said event message to determine if said event message includes one of said selected event messages.

34. The method of claim 32, wherein said user can configure said second event log through a web page-like interface.

35. The method of claim 34, wherein said web page-like interface comprises a web page-like interface generated within a printer network utility program.

36. The method of claim 34, further comprising Accessing said web page-like interface through a printer control panel.